

DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

DISTRICT I

October 6, 2003

7:00 p.m.

Atwater Community Center, 2755 E. 19th, Wichita, Kansas 67214

Members Present

Council Member Brewer
Rickie Coleman*
Gerald Domitrovic
Treatha Brown-Foster
Lacey Ganther*
Lori Lawrence
Debra K. Miller
Debby Moore
Sharon Myers*
Celina Porter Robinson
James Thompson
Ken Woodard

Members Absent

Ti'Juana Hardwell*
Steve Roberts*
Lois Tully-Gerber

Guest List

(See list, Page 8)

Staff Present

Virdena Gilkey, Neighborhood Assistant
Officer Judy Jones, WPD
Jim Armour, Public Works
Deb Legge, OCI
Randy Sparkman, OCI
Neil Cable, Public Works

*Denotes District Advisory Board Alternates

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Call to Order

Council Member Brewer called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. and welcomed the guest.

Approval of Minutes

The following corrections were recommended: **Steve Roberts** was present and correct wording on Page 2 (change that to that). **Brown Foster (Lawrence)** motion to approve DAB I minutes as amended. Motion carried (8-0).

Approval of Agenda

Item #3 on the Public Agenda is to be omitted. **Brown Foster (Porter Robinson)** made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried unanimously. (8-0)

Public Agenda

1. McAdams Neighborhood Revitalization Plan

Paula Givens, President, presented the plans and written proposal for the revitalization of the McAdams. She explained that the City and the County have approved the plans, which included the redevelopment of the Phyllis Wheatley Center, McAdams Neighborhood Park, in addition to a primary and secondary phase. The total cost of this project is \$180,000.

James Arbertha, Executive Director of Power CDC, commented that he has been working on this project for the past three years and has built up momentum in a neighborhood that has been neglected. He stated that the work should continue.

Reverend Keith Spencer, 2413 North Bluff, 9th Street Church of God, commented that they are the owners of the Phyllis Wheatley Children's Home and a member of the 21st Street Coalition, who wants to revitalize the area. With new homes being built on Cleveland and Mathewson, the area has renewed hope. Reverend Spencer stated that he whole-heartedly supports this project.

(Paula Givens response in italics)

Treatha Brown Foster inquired about the name change of the association and the boundaries. *The association name reflects the area and was combined with Central 2000. The boundaries are 17th to Central and Mosley to Hydraulic.* **Debby Moore** commented that she hadn't had the opportunity to study this proposal, and that it would be nice to have someone attend the next meeting after the board has had a chance to look at the project. She added that she supports the project.

Moore (Domitrovic) made a motion to defer this item until the next meeting so that information obtained can be reviewed. Motion carried 8-0.

Recommended Action: Defer until November 3, 2003.

2. Weed & Seed Update

Riley Williams, Weed and Seed Coordinator, explained the history of Weed and Seed and updated the board on the program. He reported that this program has been in existence since 1995 and is designed where businesses, law enforcement, and the neighborhoods work together to weed out blight and crime and seed in positive community changes based on their assessed needs. This program is sponsored by the Department of Justice and has four components: Law, Community Policing, Neighborhood Revitalization, and Intervention, Prevention, and Treatment.

In 1995, Northeast Millair Neighborhood Association had the highest crime of any neighborhood in the city. In the last five years, crime has reduced steadily by 50%. This is due to the combined efforts of neighbors working with neighbors.

The current goals that are being worked on are: truancy, domestic violence, drive-by shootings, and violent crimes. The current boundaries are 27th Street to Central and Mosley to Old Manor on the east.

This is a national program that began in 1991 and now has over 300 cities involved in neighborhood revitalization.

Councilman Brewer (Brown Foster) moved to receive and file. Motion carried 8-0.

Recommended Action: The board received and filed.

3. YWCA Week Without Violence Campaign

This item was omitted from the agenda until further notification.

Recommended Action: No action.

4. Off-agenda items

No items submitted

Staff Reports

5. Police Report

Officer Judy Jones reported that there was a problem that past weekend with drive-by shootings due to gang retaliation between an African American and Hispanic gang. Officer Jones explained the series of events: 1) Graffiti was spotted in the area of 25th and Arkansas. Pictures were taken by the Gang Unit for inscription. On October 4th at 15th and Waco, a drive-by occurred. Officers recovered a gun and caught all of the suspects; 2) On October 5th at 13th and Emporia, a retaliation shooting occurred and all of the suspects were taken into custody (8 arrests were made); 3) a shooting occurred at 1015 North Broadway and stemmed from an Asian gang out of Missouri. The suspects are still outstanding; 4) As of today, contact has been attempted with current or prior North High School students that are known gang members. There were 9 to 10 officers handing out fliers in the neighborhood notifying them of the activity. Community leaders were notified as well. Officer Jones asked for citizens to contact the police and report graffiti as soon as possible. So far only one injury has occurred.

The other three items reported were the new tethering ordinance that is now in affect, the Amnesty Program that will take place October 20th – 25th, and the holiday give away that will take place in November.

(Officer Jone's response in italics)

Treatha Brown Foster commented that her neighbors were concerned about guns being found in their area as a result of their incident. *We did not find any guns in the car or in the neighborhood.* **Councilman Brewer** thanked the officers for the fine work they are doing.

The board received and filed the report.

6. Public Works

Woodlawn Improvement, between Central and 13th Street

Jim Armour, Public Works, presented three proposals prepared for the board's consideration: (1) Construct a five lane roadway with a two-way center left turn lane, (2) Construct 4 lanes with a center median and a left turn lane at 9th, (3) Construct 4 lanes with a center median and a left turn lane at 9th, and cul-de-sac the side streets. Construction is planned for 2005.

Mr. Armour explained that this project has been in the CIP Program for 10 years and is now coming to the forefront to widen the street to five lanes in 2005. There are issues with the trees and street access that have been considered. He added that one of the determining factors is the traffic count. When the traffic count reaches 20,000 vehicles per day, the streets must be improved for access and safety. They had considered only widening to the west, but that was not possible due to grade adjustments. The right of way must be equal on both sides. Poe Engineering was selected for the design.

The design team was introduced: Mike Thompson, Jack Unruh, Mike Rice and David Foster. Preceding this introduction, a PowerPoint presentation was given by Poe Engineering to describe the proposed widening.

David Foster, Landscape Architect, reported that the landscaping is in deteriorating condition. He explained that trees have a lifespan and only 11 trees were small enough and good enough to replace (mature, over mature – replace). He is trying to save as many trees as possible on

the left side of the street, keeping in mind that the goal is to provide for sidewalks on either side. Option 1 gives 19.5 feet to work with. Many trees that have been planted are a “visual asset”. However, the tree inventory revealed that many of the trees are in decline.

Jim Armour added that the power lines relocation are also a consideration. Bell power lines are on the east side and KGE on the west side. Bell goes underground and KGE does not. KGE has been talked to about extending poles higher. Mr. Armour stated that he knows that landscaping is a problem, however, 59 trees within 4 feet of the curb right of way will be saved.

Councilman Brewer thanked Senator Rip Gooch for attending the meeting. He stated that he wanted to give everyone the opportunity to speak, however, he does not want 15 people to repeat the same thing. Mr. Brewer informed the attendees that they have five minutes to come before the board. If this comes before the City Council, they will have another opportunity to address their concerns.

A total of 18 citizens addressed the board on this issue. The following is a condensed version of all of the comments and questions. The responses will be in italics.

- 1) Why is Woodlawn only widen from Central to 13th ~ why not widen to Douglas? *Jim Armour responded that it is in the CIP in 2008 or 2009 to widen to Douglas;* 2) the speed limit does not need to be increased. Cars are currently going 45 to 50 mph down Woodlawn; 3) the traffic figures are flawed and greatly overstated by 90%; 4) it is the fiduciary duty of the City Council to spend this money wisely; 5) 12th Street does not have a drainage issue now. Homeowners paid \$650 each to fix the drainage. Why aren't the other homeowners taxed to fix the drainage; 6) the City put in five of the eleven trees that are now being considered for removal. If the project doesn't proceed, what will the City do with the trees that are old? *Jim Armour responded that the Park Department generally leaves trees that are in the right of way unless asked for removal. There are eleven trees that could be relocated, 79 trees will be spared, and 74 trees will be removed;* 7) we selected our house a year and a half ago due to the aesthetics of the neighborhood and now the City wants to change all of that; 8) emergency vehicles will be extremely affected by these proposals; 9) there is a drainage problem on 9th and Woodlawn. Hopefully 9th street can be widened with the installation of a turn lane and a signal light to slow down the traffic; *Jim Armour responded that the current traffic count does not meet the requirements for the installation of a traffic light;* 10) what if East Borough will not allow you to widen the street south of Central? *This is not a problem with the residents of East Borough;* 11) as a 32 year resident, the widening of Woodlawn is an inevitable change, however, there is an opposition to a light being installed and any kind of cul de sac is highly opposed as well; 12) pleased to see tree preservation of some sort; 13) prefer Option #1 (4 persons expressed this); 14) Jim Talbet, 1226 Patricia, made the following comments: It is in the City's 2020 Plan to widen Rock Road from Kellogg to Willow Bend. With Kellogg currently being redone, people try to avoid that area all together. There are over 400 miles of underground storm drainage with the City cleaning only 130 miles per year on an as needed basis. Some storm drains are cleaned only once every four years. The City has no policy on monitoring the water system and does not monitor the drainage system. Prior to 1983, there was not a drainage problem. In regards to accidents, the City of Wichita has 5100 reported accidents per year with a majority of those occurring from 13th Street to 21st Street, with 33% less than \$500. In conclusion, there are other more safer recommendations to bring the City up to federal standards; 15)

Representative Joan Pottorff commented that she appreciates all of the DAB members and thanked all of the guests for their attendance. She mentioned that the projected count for the number of vehicles on Rock Road would reach 28,000 by year 2030. Ms. Pottorff

asked for an explanation of the side street issue and the conflict, if money used on drainage was being administered legally, and if that information would be provided.

Mike Thompson responded that a traffic situation is caused by the way the traffic turns. The majority of the accidents over \$500 are caused by inattentiveness. A traffic report can be obtained from WPD. Jim Armour responded that all mandated funds have been targeted for appropriate use.

The discussion then went to the board for comments. Unless otherwise stated, Jim Armour is the respondent to all questions (response in italics). **Debby Moore** commented that this is similar to the reconstruction of sidewalks and streets (Wesley Hospital area), as well as the area around the university. She stated that she is leaning towards Option #1 and she hoped the residents would be as proud of the finished product as the residents are in the aforementioned project. **Debra Miller** asked what would happen if no action was taken on this matter? *The City Council would have to address this issue.* **James Thompson** asked about previous repairs, the reduction of the speed limit, and if there is a fourth plan? *Repairs were done about seven years ago. The speed limit will not be reduced and there is no fourth option.* **Gerald Domitrovic** asked if anyone had put a dollar amount on a fourth option? *Mike Thompson responded that the cost is the same for the drainage system. The cost is the same difference between 44 feet and 61 feet. There is not another option to consider. Only the options presented tonight are up for consideration.* **Sharon Myers** commented that she lives north of 21st Street at Mainsgate and Woodlawn. The drainage problem on Woodlawn makes it hazardous for driving. The traffic light installed at Mainsgate and Woodlawn was the best thing ever and has made a tremendous difference. Woodlawn has a high traffic of speeders and once they are past 21st Street, some average 60 to 70 mph. The City said that the traffic light was not warranted, but Verizons came to our aid, when the City did not want to listen to the residents. Myers commented that she just wanted to share that information. **Councilman Brewer** stated that on issues like these, the DAB members review the projects by physically walking and checking things out. There was a discussion at the District 1 Coalition Breakfast on this same issue with Representative Pottorff and City Council Member Sue Schlapp present. Chief Williams will receive a call to address the speeding issue.

Gerald Domitrovic (Porter Robinson) moved to eliminate Options 1 - 3 for consideration and to recommend a more modified proposal using existing federal guidelines and the same drainage work design in the current proposal.

Discussion to motion: **Brown Foster** asked what would this new plan look like? *Jim Armour responded that this is real similar to the option with the cul de sac. Poes and Associates added that Option 4 might not look like any of these, because it won't fix any of the problems.*

Substitute motion: **Thompson (Moore)** moved to adopt Option #1. Motion failed 3 to 5 (**Brown Foster, Miller, Domitrovic, Lawrence, Porter Robinson, and Woodard opposed**)

The original motion was voted on. Motion carried 5 – 3 (**Moore, Miller, Thompson opposed**).

Recommended Action: Board recommended the elimination of Options 1 – 3 for consideration and a more modified proposal using existing federal guidelines and the same drainage design be utilized.

Lacy Ganther left at 9:22 p.m.

7. Environmental Health

Massage Ordinance Revision

Roger Smith, Environmental Health, presented the proposed Massage Ordinance Revision. This item was deferred until the November 3, 2003 meeting due to lack of information obtained by the DAB members.

Recommended Action: Deferred until the next DAB meeting in November.

8. Office of Central Inspection

Overview of Neighborhood Inspection Functions – OCI

Randy Sparkman and **Deb Legge**, Office of Central Inspection (OCI), presented an overview of their sections' responsibilities and activities.

Randy Sparkman, Zoning and Licensing Supervisor, explained that his staff concentrates on local commercial zoning, licensing of adult bookstores, bars, etc., fire inspections, commercial signs, and graffiti. There's a staff of two employees (east/west) for the entire city for commercial licensing, one staff person for the licensing of adult bookstores, bars, etc., and two employees for commercial or building signage. They work with the Health Department, Police Department, etc. to resolve various issues.

Deb Legge, Neighborhood Inspectors Supervisor, explained that her staff concentrates on housing and residential properties, in relationship to, zoning code enforcement. The staff goes out and identifies, writes up, and processes dangerous and unsafe structures – dilapidated properties. They also enforce the Emergency Demolition Program, which falls under house fires (property owner always notified first), enforce the Insurance Ordinance, host 80 neighborhood cleanups per year, and operates with a staff of twelve (3 inspectors in District 1).

Councilman Brewer thanked both of them for coming.

Councilman Brewer (Porter Robinson) moved to receive and file. Motion carried 7-0.

Planning Agenda

No items submitted.

Unfinished Business

No items submitted.

New Business

No items submitted.

Board Agenda

9. Updates, Issues, and Reports

- 1) Staff asked the DAB members, who had not submitted their surveys on the HUD Consolidated Plan, to please do so.

- 2) **Councilman Brewer** announced the District 1 Coalition Breakfast, November 1, 2003, Cisco's Restaurant. He also offered to pick up the tab for each DAB member that attended the breakfast.
- 3) **Councilman Brewer** announced the next DAB 1 meeting, November 3, 2003.

The board received and filed.

Being no further business, **Tully-Gerber (Lawrence)** made a motion to adjourn. Motion carried 7-0.

The meeting adjourned at 10:18 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted By,

Virdena Gilkey
Neighborhood Assistant

DAB 1 Attendees List

- 1) Wayne Oburne, 641 N Woodlawn #41
- 2) Lois Oburne, 641 N. Woodlawn #41
- 3) Frank Schulte, 641 N. Woodlawn
- 4) Sonnie Schulte, 641 N. Woodlawn
- 5) Al Burton, 641 N. Woodlawn #36
- 6) Virginia Burton, 641 N. Woodlawn #36
- 7) Norm Knocke, 641 N. Woodlawn
- 8) Bert Knocke, 641 N. Woodlawn
- 9) Ken Darren, 501 N. Woodlawn
- 10) Paula Givens, 1228 N. Mathewson
- 11) Melany Pearce, 6033 Grace
- 12) Bruce Anderson 6027 Grace
- 13) West Wimsatt, 6021 Grace
- 14) Fred Schumaker, 6504 E. Elm
- 15) Phillie Schumaker, 6504 E. Elm
- 16) Steve Aker, 1134 N. Charlotte
- 17) Chrisla Wallin, 6311 Oneida
- 18) Wade Wallin, 6311 Oneida
- 19) Richard Wyzyuski, 6409 E. 8th Street
- 20) Ronald R. Davis, 1122 Patricia
- 21) Pat Love, 2651 N. Pershing Ct.
- 22) Roger Smith, City of Wichita
- 23) Mike Santana, 6402 E. Magill
- 24) Bruce Brown, 6536 Oneida
- 25) Julie Brown, 6536 Oneida
- 26) Rose Jordan, 6227 Oneida
- 27) Dorothy Nave, 1802 Looman
- 28) James Carlson, 641 N, Woodlawn #32
- 29) Pat Thompson, 623 N. Volutsia
- 30) Dale Carter, 1302 N. Woodlawn
- 31) Glen Dey, 4515 Greenbriar
- 32) Cecilia Sargreant, 1127 Patricia
- 33) Jack Sargeant, 1127 Patricia
- 34) Unknown name (not readable), 6326 E. Beachy
- 35) John Hartman, 1110 Lawrence Ct.
- 36) Norma Hartman, 1110 Lawrence Ct.
- 37) Wilbur Baird, 6401 E. 11th
- 38) Billie Baird, 6401 E. 11th
- 39) Elaine Hanne, 822 Mission
- 40) Lloyd Hanne, 822 Mission
- 41) Nikki Clavin, 6302 E. 12th St. N.
- 42) Betty Durant, 6114 E. 12th St. N.
- 43) Marilyn Mussleman, 6209 E. 12th St. N.
- 44) Kathy Love, 6326 E. Beachy
- 45) Mary Allen, 6315 E. 9th
- 46) A. Williams, 6318 E. 9th
- 47) Gary Pottorff, 6321 8th Street
- 48) JoAnn Pottorff, 6321 8th Street
- 49) James Talbett, 1226 Patricia
- 50) Dorothy L. Gray, 6414 E. 11th St
- 51) Robert Muhammed, 2929 Ellen
- 52) Carl Ligon, 1736 NE Parkway
- 53) Marla Anderson, 1021 Cleveland
- 54) Camille Lee, 2918 E. Douglas
- 55) Ivon Ray, 933 N. Wabash
- 56) Michael Helsel, 6543 Oneida
- 57) Eileen Blasi, 357 N. Edgemoore
- 58) Rev. Keith Spencer, 2413 N. Bluff
- 59) Jeff Beekhuizen, 6210 E. 9th
- 60) Wayne Goner, 6307 E. 9th
- 61) Paul Goner, 6307 E. 9th
- 62) John Seeber, 6603 Majorie
- 63) Barbara Seeber, 6603 Majorie
- 64) Will Klunder, 6321 Majorie
- 65) Kathy Klunder, 6321 Majorie
- 66) John Conlee, 6404 E. 8th
- 67) Riley Williams, 1631 E. 17th
- 68) Frances Kettler, 830 N. Woodlawn
- 69) Phillip Kettler, 830 N. Woodlawn
- 70) Joan Buenten, 6420 Majorie
- 71) Henry Buenten, 6420 Majorie
- 72) Lester McGuire, 6314 E. 8th St.
- 73) Linda Schnedler, 6303 E. 10th
- 74) David Schnedler, 6303 E. 10th
- 75) Chris Christian, 6213 E. 10th
- 76) Jody Loverly, 6320 E. 8th
- 77) Sheldon Pangbur, 6314 E. Murdock
- 78) Mary Pangbur, 6314 E. Murdock
- 79) Janet Yenne, 6020 E. Murdock
- 80) Susan Daggett, 905 St. James
- 81) Larry Daggett, 905 St. James
- 82) Jim Rogers, 6411 Jacqueline
- 83) Jeyna Rogers, 6411 Jacqueline

